

Message Text

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61

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /053 W

----- 127273

R 302155Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1533

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

SECDEF

CINCUSAFE

USCINCEUR

HQ 3AF RAF MILDENHALL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, UK, GW

SUBJECT: BRITISH PRESS REPORTS ON U-2 CRASH

REF: LONDON 7985

1. MAY 30 MAJOR LONDON MORNING PAPERS ALL MADE FRONT PAGE MENTION OF THE U-2 CRASH IN THE FRG. TIMES, FINANCIAL TIMES AND TELEGRAPH REPORTED THE INCIDENT WITH LITTLE OR NO COMMENT. THE TIMES MENTIONED THAT THE U-2 WAS "OLD HAT" COMPARED TO THE ULTRASUPERSONIC SR-71. LEFTIST MORNING STAR ALSO STAYED WITH THE FACTS, MAKING NO ADVERSE COMMENT. THE GUARDIAN, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAD CONSIDERABLE COMMENT UNDER HEADLINES, "U-2 INCIDENT PROVOKES FURY". ARTICLE MENTIONS FURY OF LEFT-WING MPS OVER THREAT TO DETENTE. IT QUOTES LABOR MP FRANK ALLAUN WHO RECENTLY DEMANDED IMMEDIATE WITHDRAWAL OF U-2S, "FLYING SO CLOSE TO THE COMMUNIST BORDER WAS NOT MERELY CARELESS, IT WAS PROVOCATIVE". ALLAUN RE-

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CALLS THE GARY POWERS FLIGHT IN CONDEMNING U-2 FLIGHTS

AT A TIME WHEN THREE PEACE CONFERENCES ARE ABOUT TO
BEGIN.

2. COMMENT: SO FAR NONE OF THE PAPERS HAVE SPECULATED
ABOUT THE FLIGHTS, MERELY REPEATING THE OFFICIAL EX-
PLANATION THAT THEY ARE HIGH-LEVEL NAVIGATIONAL FLIGHTS
OVER ALLIED NATIONS.

SPIERS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY FLIGHT CLEARANCES, OBSERVATION AIRCRAFT, ALLEGATIONS, AIRCRAFT ACCIDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LONDON08175
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750190-0793
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975056/aaaaaetu.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 LONDON 7985
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <22 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRITISH PRESS REPORTS ON U-2 CRASH
TAGS: PFOR, EAIR, MPOL, US, UK, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006